**The Treatment Of Women In The United States**

Today, even though there are still inequalities between the sexes, women have far greater freedom than they have ever had before. Like many other nations in the world women were mistreated and had little political freedom. Laws and traditions developed depriving women of opportunities and options.

In early American society a woman had no property rights. When a woman was married all her property became the legal property of her husband, this included the children, who were considered to be the property of the father. A woman could divorce her husband, but she would most likely receive nothing and be forced to leaver her children.

Even though women were technically citizens in the United States, females did not have the right to vote until 1920. Deprived of this right women had no voice in the government. Black men received the right to vote in 1886 after the Civil War, but black women were not able to vote until 1920.

Traditionally women were expected to remain in the home to raise children, cook and clean. Opportunities for employment were very limited. The jobs that were available to women were low paying and offered no chance of promotion. In some states laws were even passed to prevent women from taking certain jobs. Certain mid western states made it illegal for women to take jobs that required them to lift more than forty pounds. By denying women the access to jobs and education women were forced in to a cycle of dependence and submission to their husbands and the male dominated society.